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- 1. A pharmacologically active peptide hormone derivative in which the parent peptide hormone has been modified by introducing either a lipophilic substituent, W, in the N-terminal amino acid or a lipophilic substituent, Z, in the C-terminal amino acid of the parent peptide hormone or an analogue thereof, said lipophilic substituent having from 8 to 40 carbon atoms, with the proviso that when the lipophilic substituent is attached to the N-terminal amino group then the substituent comprises a group which can be negatively charged and with the further proviso, that said peptide hormone is not insulin or an analogue thereof.
- 15 2. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 1 wherein a lipophilic group, W, is present.
 - 3. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 2 wherein W has from 12 to 35 carbon axons.

4. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 1 wherein a lipophilic group, Z, is present

- 5. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 4 wherein Z has from 12 to 35 carbon atoms.
- 6. A peptide hormone derivative according to-claim 1 wherein the parent peptide hormone is selected from the group consisting of ACTH. corticotropin-releasing factor, angiotensin, calcitonin, glucagon, glucagon tike peptide and 30 analogues and fragments thereof, IGF-1, IGF-2, enterogastrin, somatostatin, somatotropin, somatomedin, parathyroid hormone, thrombopoietin, erythropoietin, hypothalamic releasing factors, prolactin, thyroid stimulating hormones endorphins, 35 enkephalins, vasopressin, oxytocin, opiods and analoques thereof, superoxide dismutase, interferon, asparaginase, arginase, arginine deaminase, deaminase adenosine and

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ribonuclease.

- 7. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 2 wherein a carboxyl group contained in W forms an amide bond together with the α -amino group of the N-terminal amino acid.
- 8. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 2 wherein a carboxyl group contained in W forms an amide bond together with the ϵ -amino group of a N-terminal lysine.
- 9. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 2 wherein W is $CH_3(CH_2)_n((CH_2)_mCOOH)CHNH-CO(CH_2)_2CO-$ where n and m are integers and W has from 8 to 40, preferably from 12 to 35 carbon atoms.
 - 10. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 2 wherein W is a group of the general formula $\mathrm{CH_3}(\mathrm{CH_2})_{\mathrm{r}}\mathrm{CO}-\mathrm{NHCH}(\mathrm{COOH})(\mathrm{CH_2})_{\mathrm{2}}\mathrm{CO}-\mathrm{wherein}$ is an integer from 10 to 24.
- 20 11. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 2 wherein W is a group of the general formula $\mathrm{CH_3(CH_2)_sCO-NHCH((CH_2)_2COOH)CO-}$ wherein s is an integer from 8 to 24.
- 12. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 4 wherein 25 an amino group contained in Z forms an amide bond together with carboxyl group of the C-terminal amino acid.
- 13. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 4 wherein Z is a group of the general formula -NHCH(COOH)(CH₂)₄NH-CO(CH₂)_mCH₃ wherein m is an integer from 8 to 18, that is, Z is a N°-acylated lysine residue.
- 14. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 4 wherein Z is a group of the general formula -NHCH (COOH) (CH₂)₄NH-35 COCH((CH₂)₂COOH)NH-CO(CH₂)_pCH₃ wherein p is an integer from 10 to 16.

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15. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 4 wherein Z is a group of the general formula -NHCH(COOH)($\rm CH_2$) $_4\rm NH-CO(CH_2)_2\rm CH(COOH)NH-CO(CH_2)_q\rm CH_3$ wherein q is an integer from 10 to 16.

- 16. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 4 wherein Z is a group of the general formula -NHCH(COOH)(CH $_2$) $_4$ NH-CO(CH $_2$) $_2$ CH(COOH)NHCO(CH $_2$) $_4$ CH $_3$ wherein t is zero or an integer from 1 to 22.
- 17. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 4 wherein a spacer in the form of the dipeptide Gly-Lys has been inserted between the lipophilic group Z and the parent peptide hormone.
- 18. A peptide hormone derivative according to claim 4 wherein Z comprises a partly or completely hydrogenated cyclopentanophenanthrene skeleton.
- 19. A method of providing a pharmacologically active peptide hormone derivative which has a protracted profile of action relative to the parent peptide hormone which method comprises modifying the parent peptide hormone by introducing either a lipophilic substituent, W, in the N-terminal amino acid or a lipophilic substituent, Z, in the C-terminal amino acid of the parent peptide hormone, said lipophilic substituent having from 8 to 40 carbon atoms, with the proviso that when the lipophilic substituent is attached to the N-terminal amino group then the substituent comprises a group which can be negatively charged and with the further proviso, that said peptide hormone is not insulin or an analogue thereof.

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